

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-19

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-07 SAM-01 OIC-04 EB-11 AEC-11

OMB-01 DRC-01 /160 W

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R 181545Z JUN 74

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6401

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 4157

USMISSION GENEVA

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USCINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE

USLOSACLANT

CINCLANT

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 3460

E.O. 11652: GDS, 12-31-82

TAGS: MCAP, NATO

SUBJECT: NPG MINISTERIAL MEETING AGREED MINUTE

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF AGREED MINUTE OF NPG MINISTERIAL MEETING
HELD AT BERGEN, NORWAY ON JUNE 11 AND 12, 1974.

BEGIN TEXT

I. BALANCE OF STRATEGIC FORCES

MINISTERS:

1. ON THE BASIS OF A COMPREHENSIVE BRIEFING ON THE
BALANCE OF STRATEGIC FORCES BY THE UNITED STATES
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, DISCUSSED THE IMPACT THAT
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RECENT AND ANTICIPATED DEVELOPMENTS MAY HAVE ON
NATO SECURITY;

2. WELCOMED THE DETAILED EXPLANATION OF DEVELOPMENTS
IN U.S. TARGETING DOCTRINE PROVIDED BY THE UNITED STATES

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE. THEY AGREED THAT THE DOCTRINE OF SELECTIVITY AND FLEXIBILITY ENHANCES DETERRENCE AGAINST POSSIBLE THREATS TO NATO, AND IS CONSISTENT WITH THE NATO AGREED STRATEGY OF FLEXIBLE RESPONSE. THEY ALSO AGREED THAT THE U.S. TARGETING DOCTRINE REDUCES THE RISK THAT WAR WOULD OCCURE;

3. EMPHASIZED THAT A NECESSARY INGREDIENT TO REDUCING THE RISK OF NUCLEAR WAR IS THE CONTINUED MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE CONVENTIONAL FORCES OF THE ALLIANCE;

4. AGREED THAT EXPLANATION TO THE PUBLIC OF THE NATURE AND ADVANTAGES OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN US NUCLEAR TARGETING DOCTRINE WOULD ASSIST IN DISPELLING ANY POSSIBLE MISUNDERSTANDINGS OF THE DOCTRINE AND WOULD ENHANCE DETERRENCE;

5. NOTED WITH APPRECIATION THAT THE SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER, EUROPE HAD ALREADY BEGUN TO DEVELOP SELECTIVE EMPLOYMENT PLANNING OPTIONS DESIGNED TO ENHANCE FLEXIBILITY IN NATO'S NUCLEAR PLANNING. THEY REQUESTED THE MAJOR NATO COMMANDERS CONCERNED TO CONTINUE THEIR EFFORTS IN THIS REGARD IN CONCORDANCE WITH EXISTING POLICY GUIDANCE AND TO REPORT ON THEIR WORK AS IT PROGRESSES. THEY ALSO INVITED THE MAJOR NATO COMMANDERS CONCERNED TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON THE PROGRESS OF WORK UNDERWAY IN THEIR COMMANDS AT THE NEXT MINISTERIAL MEETING.

II. NORWEGIAN NUCLEAR AND BASE POLICY

MINISTERS:

6. NOTED WITH APPRECIATION A STATEMENT BY THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE OF NORWAY ON NORWEGIAN NUCLEAR AND BASE POLICY.

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III. FUNCTION OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEE IN THE NUCLEAR CONSULTATION PROCESS

MINISTERS:

7. TOOK NOTE OF AREPORT (1) BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES ON THE MILITARY COMMITTEE FUNCTION IN THE NUCLEAR CONSULTATION PROCESS;

(1) NPG/D(74)5, 29TH MAY, 1974

8. AGREED THAT THE CONCEPTUAL APPROACH OUTLINED IN THE DRAFT NPG REPORT TO THE DPC (1) PREPARED BY THE

PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES IS CONSISTENT WITH THE
GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR CONSULTATION PROCEDURES ON
THE USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS (2);

9. CONCURRED THAT THE MILITARY COMMITTEE, IN CARRYING
OUT ITS FUNCTION IN SUPPORT OF THE NUCLEAR
CONSULTATION PROCESS, SHOULD CONFORM WITH THE
CONCEPTUAL APPROACH OUTLINED IN THE DRAFT NPG
REPORT TO THE DPC;

10. APPROVED THE DRAFT NPG REPORT AND AGREED TO
FORWARD IT TO THE NUCLEAR DEFENCE AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE FOR ENDORSEMENT AND FURTHER TRANSMITTAL
TO THE DPC WITH THE RECOMMENDATION THAT THE DPC
APPROVE THE NPG CONCLUSIONS MENTIONED IN
PARAGRAPHS 8 AND 9 ABOVE.

IV. US RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT WITH THE RESPECT TO NUCLEAR
WEAPONS FOR TACTICAL USE

MINISTERS:

11. RECEIVED WITH APPRECIATION A BRIEFING BY THE
UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF DEFENSE ON U.S. RESEARCH AND
DEVELOPMENT WITH RESPECT TO NUCLEAR WEAPONS FOR

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TACTICAL USE AND HAD A PRELIMINARY EXCHANGE
OF VIEWS ON POSSIBLE WAYS IN WHICH TECHNOLOGICAL
IMPROVEMENTS MIGHT AFFECT NATO'S
DETERRENT POSTURE AND DEFENCE CAPABILITIES;

(1) ANNEX TO NPG/D(74)5
(2) DPC/D(69)59, 20TH NOVEMBER, 1969

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12. AGREED THAT THEY WOULD RETURN TO THIS GENERAL SUBJECT IN CONNECTION WITH THE STUDY OF THE POLITICAL AND MILITARY IMPLICATIONS OF TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING THE TACTICAL USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS(1) AND THAT THE BREIFING HAD PARTICULAR APPLICABILITY TO THIS STUDY.

V. WARSAW PACT POLITICO-MILITARY STRATEGY AND MILITARY DOCTRINE

MINISTERS:

13. TOOK NOTE OF A STUDY ON WARSAW PACT POLITICO-MILITARY STRATEGY AND MILITARY DOCTRINE FOR THE TACTICAL USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS (2) AND A RELATED REPORT BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES (3);

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14. DISCUSSED THE ISSUES RAISED IN THE WARSAW PACT STUDY AND IN THE DRAFT NPG REPORT TO THE DPC(4) ATTACHED TO THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT;

15. AGREED THAT THE WARSAW PACT STUDY IS A VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TOWARD THE OBJECTIVE OF REACHING A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF WARSAW PACT POLITICO-MILITARY STRATEGY AND MILITARY DOCTRINE FOR THE TACTICAL USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS;

16. RECOGNIZED THAT THE WARSAW PACT STUDY CONTRIBUTES TO THE UNDERSTANDING OF DETERRENCE;

(1) NPG/D(73)16, 8TH NOVEMBER, 1973, PARAGRAPH 30;

NPG/D(74)3, 10TH APRIL, 1974

(2) NPG/STUDY/45, 8TH MARCH, 1974

(3) NPG/D(74)6, 16TH MAY, 1974

(4) ANNEX TO NPG/D(74)6

17. AGREED THAT THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE WARSAW PACT

STUDY DO NOT CALL INTO QUESTION THE VALIDITY OF
CURRENT NATO STRATEGY AND OTHER BASIC POLICY
GUIDANCE;

18. TOOK NOTE OF A STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
MILITARY COMMITTEE THAT THE WARSAW PACT STUDY
SHOULD NOT SUPPLANT THE NATO AGREED MILITARY
INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENT OF WARSAW PACT STRENGTH
AND CAPABILITIES (1);

19. APPROVED THE DRAFT NPG REPORT TO THE DPC AND
AGREED, IN VIEW OF ITS POTENTIAL RELEVANCE TO
POLITICAL DECISION-MAKING, TO FORWARD IT TOGETHER
WITH THE WARSAW PACT STUDY TO THE NUCLEAR DEFENCE
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE FOR ENDORSEMENT AND FURTHER
TRANSMITTAL TO THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE
WITH THE RECOMMENDATION THAT THE DEFENCE PLANNING
COMMITTEE:

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(A) NOTE THE WARSAW PACT STUDY AND THE RELATED
COMMENTS IN THE NPG MINISTERS' REPORT;

(B) AGREE THAT THEY SHOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT
IN NATO PEACETIME PLANNING AND IN DECISION-
MAKING IN TIME OF TENSION OR CONFLICT;

(C) INVITE NATIONAL AUTHORITIES AND APPROPRIATE
NATO ACTIVITIES TO CONTRIBUTE ON A CONTINUING
BASIS TOWARD IMPROVING NATO UNDERSTANDING OF
WARSAW PACT POLITICO-MILITARY STRATEGY AND
MILITARY DOCTRINE FOR THE TACTICAL USE OF
NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

(1) MC 161 SERIES

VI. FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME

MINISTERS:

20. TOOK NOTE OF A DOCUMENT CIRCULATED BY THE
CHAIRMAN(1) DESCRIBING THE FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME
OF THE NUCLEAR PLANNING GROUP.

VII. TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

MINISTERS:

21. ACCEPTED WITH PLEASURE THE INVITATION EXTENDED BY
THE GOVERNMENT OF ITALY TO HOLD THE NEXT
MINISTERIAL MEETING OF THE NUCLEAR PLANNING GROUP

IN ROME ON 7TH AND 8TH NOVEMBER, 1974.

(1) PO/74/50(REVISED), 22ND MAY, 1974

END TEXT.

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GENEVA
MBFR VIENNA
USCINCEUR
USNMR SHAPE
USLOSACLANT

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